

melting point of at least 290 C, an inorganic filler, and an elastomeric impact modifier. The ratio of weight of filler(M) to weight of impact modifier(T) is 2 to 6.5. Molded products from these compositions have an excellent balance of toughness and stiffness, without attendant warping. Moreover, heat and chemical resistance is appreciable. See generally, Claim 1 and page 12, lines 10-15 of the specification.

The Previous 35 USC 103 Rejection

Claims 1,2, and 4 were previously rejected as unpatentably obvious over Weber et al. or Desio et al., each in view of Paschke et al. Yet Weber et al. require a polymethacrylimide and a polymeric component having hydroxyl groups, clearly suggesting a different polymer system than Applicant's composition. And Desio et al. are directed to balancing toughness and stiffness of unreinforced polyphthalamide compositions with polypropylene and elastomer, again quite different from the instant approach.

Paschke et al., cited for their disclosure of polyamides having melting points above 290 C, must rely on polypropylene for enhanced processibility, which the compositions of the present invention do not require.

Of particular importance, Applicant has identified a specific combination of inorganic filler and elastomeric impact modifier to achieve the aforementioned balanced properties. Applicants strongly submit that this result cannot be derived by the combination of references some of which suggest only the optional use of modifiers and fillers. This is because it is impossible to predict the properties of interest through the casual introduction of such ingredients.

The Amendment to the Claim

Claim 1 was amended to include "modifier" with "impact" as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful reading of the claim. While Applicants concede that the letters "M" and "T" bear no relation to what they intend to describe (weights of inorganic filler and impact modifier, respectively), nevertheless these abbreviations are used throughout the case and so properly defined.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application with the claims as amended is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: 1-22-61

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